



COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION

AS A BELOW-NAMED INVENTOR, I HEREBY DECLARE THAT:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if more than one name is listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: RESORBABLE ANASTOMOSIS STENTS AND PLUGS AND THEIR USE IN PATIENTS, the specification of which

\_\_\_\_\_ is attached hereto  
X was filed on September 25, 2001

and assigned Serial No. 09/966,800 and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_.

I HAVE REVIEWED AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED SPECIFICATION, INCLUDING THE CLAIMS, AS AMENDED BY ANY AMENDMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE.

I acknowledge and understand that I am an individual who has a duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of the claims of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §§ 1.56(a) and (b) which state:

- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was

violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
  - (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
  - (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
    - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
    - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

I do not know and do not believe this invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my or our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my or our invention thereof or more than one year prior to said application. This invention was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application. This invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on any application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than one year prior to this application.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e)(1) of any United States provisional application(s) for patent as indicated below and have also identified below any application for patent on this invention having a filing date before that of the application for patent on which priority is claimed:

Application No.	Date of Filing (day/month/year)	Priority Claimed
60/235,036	September 25, 2000	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>   </u>
60/259,997	January 5, 2001	Yes <u>X</u> No <u>   </u>

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and agents to prosecute that application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and to file, to prosecute and to transact all business in connection with all patent applications directed to the invention:

Dianne E. Reed, Reg. No. 31,292  
Shelley P. Eberle, Reg. No. 31,411  
J. Elin Hartrum, Reg. No. 43,663  
Mark A. Wilson, Reg. No. 43,275  
Louis L. Wu, Reg. No. 44,413  
Cynthia R. Moore, Reg. No. 46,086  
CUSTOMER NO. 23980

Address all correspondence to Louis L. Wu at:

REED & ASSOCIATES  
800 Menlo Avenue, Suite 210  
Menlo Park, California 94025

Address all telephone calls to Louis L. Wu at (650) 330-0900.

This appointment, including the right to delegate this appointment, shall also apply to the same extent to any proceedings established by the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

First Joint or Sole inventor:

Signature: Kenneth Franco Date 11/20/2001  
Full Name of Inventor: Kenneth Franco  
Citizenship: United States of America  
Residence: Omaha, Nebraska  
Post Office Address: 16603 Capitol Plaza, Apt. #3, Omaha, Nebraska 68118

Second Joint inventor:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name of Inventor: George Chu  
Citizenship: United States of America  
Residence: Cupertino, California  
Post Office Address: 21020 Rainbow Drive, Cupertino, California 95014

Third Joint inventor:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name of Inventor: Frank A. DeLustro  
Citizenship: United States of America  
Residence: Belmont, California  
Post Office Address: 2517 DeKoven Avenue, Belmont, California 94402

Fourth Joint Inventor:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name of Inventor: George Y. Daniloff  
Citizenship: United States of America  
Residence: Mountain View, California  
Post Office Address: 1935 Polk Court, Mountain View, California 94040



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First Joint or Sole inventor:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name of Inventor: Kenneth Franco  
Citizenship: United States of America  
Residence: Omaha, Nebraska  
Post Office Address: 16603 Capitol Plaza, Apt. #3, Omaha, Nebraska 68118

Second Joint inventor:

Signature: George Chu Date: 11/16/01  
Full Name of Inventor: George Chu  
Citizenship: United States of America  
Residence: Cupertino, California  
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Third Joint inventor:  
Signature: Frank DeLustro Date: 11/16/01  
Full Name of Inventor: Frank A. DeLustro  
Citizenship: United States of America  
Residence: Belmont, California  
Post Office Address: 2517 DeKoven Avenue, Belmont, California 94402

Fourth Joint Inventor:  
Signature: George Y. Daniloff Date: 11/16/01  
Full Name of Inventor: George Y. Daniloff  
Citizenship: United States of America  
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